



## ***RELEASE OF SUBSURFACE INFORMATION FIELD SECTION 22***

**22.1 SCOPE.** To establish procedures for releasing factual subsurface information free of charge to potential and successful bidders, or to other recipients when deemed appropriate by the district engineer. Release of letters or reports containing opinions or recommendations is outside the scope of this section.

**2.1.1** District Soils and Geology Technologist may be substituted where applicable when there is no District Geologist.

### **22.2 PROCEDURE.**

**22.2.1 General.** Effective with the October 1993 letting, contracts which include grading or structures will contain a job special provision entitled "Notice of Availability of Subsurface Information". This special provision will contain the name, address and FAX number of the District Operations Engineer as the individual responsible for furnishing factual subsurface information free of charge to bidders upon request.

The District Geologist (DG) is to obtain an advance copy of the letting schedule as soon as possible from district planning personnel. Upon receipt, the DG or authorized representative is to assemble a packet of all applicable factual subsurface information for the project.

The District Engineer may also direct the release of factual subsurface information to other public agencies, community development corporations, chambers of commerce, or such other parties as deemed appropriate. However, such releases of subsurface information to parties other than potential or successful bidders should be done over the signature of the District Engineer.

**22.2.2 Changes in Project Conditions.** It is intended that bidders requesting subsurface information shall be furnished all factual information which is available from within the limits of the project. Where changes in grade or structure bent locations, for example, have caused additional borings to be made, both the old and new borings are to be included. If project alignment changes have been made, subsequent to completion of the subsurface investigation, the bidder is to be provided information, as a listed attachment in the letter of transmittal, which would permit him to make any necessary corrections in stationing. If an alignment change has resulted in additional borings for cut classification purposes, the old borings are also to be included if they fall within any area to be excavated.

### **22.3 REPORT.**

**22.3.1** Factual subsurface information is to be released to bidders only when accompanied by (1) a letter, over the signature of the District Geologist, addressed to the party requesting the information; and (2) a standard sheet entitled "Limiting Conditions for Subsurface Logs" and a standard sheet entitled, "General Notes Regarding Subsurface Logs and Test Data". The district shall retain a copy of the information released and maintain a record of the persons obtaining this information.

**22.3.2** Exhibit 22-A, Exhibit 22-B and Exhibit 22-C of this section show examples of the letter of transmittal and the standard sheets entitled "Limiting Conditions for Subsurface Logs" and "General Notes Regarding Subsurface Logs and Test Data". The exact wording and format of the standard letter and sheets are to be used as shown except that the letter of transmittal is to be prepared on a district letterhead and may also include any necessary notes to explain applicable changes in project conditions as discussed in paragraph 22.2.2. All logs and test data summaries which follow the standard sheets shall be numbered consecutively using a numbering machine.

**22.3.3** A notation is included on the "Limiting Conditions for Subsurface Logs", Exhibit 22B, to the effect that any other subsurface information which the department has may be inspected in the district office upon request. Such information is to be made available for the bidder's review. This information is not to be removed from the office nor shall copies be furnished except in compliance with applicable instructions from the General Headquarters regarding implementation of the Sunshine Act.

**22.3.4** Factual subsurface information to be released free of charge to bidders ordinarily will consist of boring logs from preliminary geotechnical reports and structure foundation investigation reports and summaries of test data accompanying various special soils investigation reports. Types of subsurface investigation documents that are **not** to be routinely released without charge but which may be made available for inspection to bidders include written reports containing opinions, interpretations and recommendations. Examples include the text and summary sheets from the preliminary geotechnical report, preliminary bridge information reports, letters of transmittal for structure foundation reports, and the text of various special soils investigation reports. Copies of this information may however be subject to recovery through provision of the Sunshine Act. Procedures for release of information under provisions of this act are outside the scope of this document.

## **22.4 LITIGATION.**

**22.4.1 General.** Subsurface information obtained at the request of or under the direction of the Chief Counsel's office is considered privileged and is not subject to inspection or release except by the Chief Counsel's office. Any request to inspect or obtain copies of subsurface logs or other types of information by attorneys other than those representing the Commission shall be referred to the Commission's legal staff.

(dateprint)

(Name)

(Title)

(Firm)

(Address)

(Address)

Subject:           Materials  
                      Subsurface Information  
                      Project(s):  
                      Route(s):  
                      County(s):

Dear (Name):

As requested, we are attaching boring logs and other factual records of subsurface data and investigations performed for the specified project(s). Your use of this information is subject to the limiting conditions and restrictions contained in Sec 102.5 of the Missouri Standard Specifications for Highway Construction (as revised in the contract documents) and in Attachment 1 listed below. These restrictions also apply to any other attachment necessary to correct stationing of alignments, when applicable to a specified project.

1.       Limiting Conditions for Subsurface Logs;
2.       General Notes Regarding Subsurface Logs and Test Data; and
3.       Pages Numbered Consecutively 1 Through \_\_\_\_\_.

(Name)

District Geologist

(Initials)

Attachments:

**Exhibit 22-A**



## LIMITING CONDITIONS FOR SUBSURFACE LOGS

Project \_\_\_\_\_

Route \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

**Attachment for the Following Pages Numbered Consecutively 1 through (\_\_\_\_\_).**

The attached boring logs and other factual subsurface information obtained for the design of this project are made available to bidders so that all have access to identical subsurface information available to the Commission and are not intended as a substitute for personal investigation, interpretations, and judgment of the bidders.

This information was obtained by the Missouri Highway and Transportation Commission for its use only for design purposes and for estimation of quantities for the purpose of bid comparison, and *not* to determine actual subsurface conditions, the actual quantities of subsurface materials, or the appropriate construction methods. The Commission makes *no* representation as to the accuracy of the logs or other subsurface information, since the accuracy is limited by the equipment used and the personal judgment of the persons making the investigation, and the logs indicate conditions encountered only at the times and the specific locations shown. Ground water observations are *not* routinely recorded in all borings logs and the absence of such data does *not* mean that no ground water will be encountered. The furnishing of this information is *not* to be considered as a representation of actual conditions to be encountered during construction and does *not* relieve a bidder from the responsibility of making his own investigation of conditions to be encountered and basing his bid on information obtained from his own investigation. any assumptions which a bidder may make from this data, the bidder makes at his own risk; none are intended by the Commission.

Certain types of documents relating to subsurface investigations are *not* included in this packet. These include correspondence and reports containing interpretations, opinions, and recommendations which may or may not be factual, accurate or consistent with design decisions. Individual test reports are not included where the results are otherwise summarized and made available in tabular form in one of the enclosed documents. However, any or all of that information not included in this packet, or any other subsurface information in the possession of the Commission, for this or any adjacent project, may be inspected upon specific request at the Operations office in the district where the work is to be performed. Except, however, test reports for undisturbed foundation samples and certain other specialized tests are not routinely kept in the district; these may be available for inspection upon request only at the Commission's central laboratory in Jefferson City. The bidder is cautioned that any and all such interpretations, conclusions and recommendations are *not* represented or warranted to be accurate or reliable, and the Commission *cannot* be bound by them, whether or not it may appear to have "relied" on them. These subjective findings have *not* been confirmed or shown to be reliable, and the bidder assumes the sole risk of liability or loss if the bidder does rely on these documentary interpretations and conclusions to its detriment, delay or loss.

**The bidder assumes all risks it may encounter in basing its order of work, equipment or personnel determinations, time of performance, cost of performance, working days needed, item bid prices, or any other element of the work, on the attached documents or any other documentation, not expressly**

**warranted, which the bidder obtains from the Commission.**

For your guidance in understanding the limited subsurface data obtained by and documents prepared for the Commission, the attached sheet labeled "General Notes Regarding Subsurface Logs and Test Data" explains the procedures and test methods used by MoDOT.

### EXHIBIT 22-B

#### GENERAL NOTES REGARDING SUBSURFACE LOGS AND TEST DATA



Subsurface investigations by the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) are performed generally in accordance with procedures and test method which are listed in AASHTO T86, Investigation and Sampling Soils and Rock for Engineering Purposes. However, not all of the methods listed in T86 are used and, in addition to the sampling methods listed, MoDOT also utilizes the Giddings slotted tube sampler for some preliminary geotechnical report samples and makes occasional use of a non-standard penetration test as described in (14) below. Test data reported in summary form in various reports may include the following which are performed in accordance with the indicated test methods with significant exceptions, additions, and abbreviations as noted:

- (1) ASTM soil classification - ASTM D 2487
- (2) AASHTO soil classification (group and index) - AASHTO M145 except that the index reported is computed by methods of AASHTO M145-49.
- (3) Maximum Density (M.D.) and Optimum Moisture (O.M.)- AASHTO T99, Method C.
- (4) Natural Moisture Content - (W<sub>n</sub>) - AASHTO T265.
- (5) Liquid Limit (LL) - AASHTO T89.
- (6) Plastic Index (PI) - AASHTO T90.
- (7) Particle size analysis - AASHTO T88 except that percentages of clay or silt, if determined prior to 1972, may be based upon particle size definitions now obsolete.
- (8) Unconfined compressive strength of soil (Q<sub>u</sub>) - AASHTO T208.  
Unconfined compressive strength of rock (Q<sub>u</sub>) - ASTM D2938.
- (9) Triaxial shear strength parameters ( $\phi$ , angle of internal friction; and c, cohesion)- AASHTO T236.
- (10) Direct shear strength parameters ( $\phi$ , angle of internal friction; and c, cohesion ) AASHTO T236.
- (11) One-dimensional consolidation characteristics - AASHTO T216. Data is reported using the following symbols:

(C <sub>c</sub> )	Compression index
(C <sub>v</sub> )	Coefficient of consolidation
(P <sub>1</sub> )	In-situ pressure calculated to exist at the location, depth, and time sampled.
(e <sub>1</sub> )	Void ratio corresponding to P <sub>1</sub> .
(P <sub>2</sub> & e <sub>2</sub> )	Pressure and void ratio calculated for an assumed loading condition.
(P <sub>c</sub> & e <sub>c</sub> )	Estimated preconsolidation pressure and corresponding void ratio.
- (12) Pocket Penetrometer (P.P.) and Torvane (Tv.) tests are nonstandard tests made using small hand held devices marketed by Soiltest, Inc. or other suppliers.
- (13) Standard penetration test- AASHTO T206.
- (14) 100-blow penetration test - non-standard test using equipment of AASHTO T206. Inches penetration per 100 blows are reported. Estimated equivalent unconfined compressive strengths, if reported, are based upon correlations by MoDOT and others.

**EXHIBIT 22-C**